

Attorney's Docket No.: 14723-008001

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0054] as follows:

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[0054] In FIG. 8(a), both first and second fibers 14 and 16 are broken. In FIG. 8(b), there is a failure in a single optical amplifier in the counter-clock-wise fiber as indicated by a cross sign, and optical switch 26 29 is open to ensure that there is a break point in the clock-wise working fiber 14 ring. In FIG. 8(c) a failure exists in one optical amplifier in the counter-clock-wise fiber 16. Optical switches 28 and 30 are switched in order to let launched signal bypass the failed in-line amplifier. Optical switch 32 is switched to open position to ensure that there is a break point in the clock-wise fiber 14 ring. In a normal operating condition, without a break or failure of a fiber or an amplifier, the transmitted signal arrives at the receiver in the clock-wise direction 18 or the counter-clock-wise direction 20 but not in both. In FIGS. 8(a) through (c), the add and drop arrangement is the same as illustrated in FIG. 4(b).

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